

News Briefs

**New legal office hours**

The new Columbus AFB Legal Office hours are from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Attorney consults are available by appointment from 10 to 11 a.m. Tuesday and 1 to 3 p.m. Thursday. Walk-ins will be seen from 2 to 3 p.m. Tuesdays. Notaries and Powers of Attorney are available from 9 to 11 a.m. Mondays and Fridays, 8 to 11 a.m. Wednesdays, and 1 to 4 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. Will executions and signings are available by appointment only at 10 a.m. Thursdays. Clients are expected to arrive 15 minutes early. Legal office tax center appointments are available from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Thursdays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays.

**Emergency 911 stickers**

Emergency 911 stickers are required on all telephones at Columbus AFB. For stickers or more information, call the fire prevention office at Ext. 2269.

**ASIST training**

Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training is from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 3 through March 4 at the community center. All BLAZE TEAM members are invited to attend, however the training is highly recommended for supervisors. Participants will learn to enhance intervention skills until either the immediate risk of suicide is reduced or additional life-assistance resources can be located. To register, call the life skills support center at Ext. 2239.

Inside



VIEWPOINT 10

Commander Maj. Keith Kenne beams after 14th Contracting Squadron snags six awards from command.

Four star returns



Kenn Brown

**Gen. Robert Foglesong, U.S. Air Forces in Europe commander, holds the attention of distinguished party members Col. David Lewis, 14th Operations Group commander, and Lt. Col. David Snyder, 14th Operations Support Squadron commander, as he speaks at the specialized undergraduate pilot training graduation Feb. 18. General Foglesong not only earned his silver wings at Columbus AFB, but he is also a former wing commander.**

**‘Paper please’ preferred at commissary**

**Bonnie Powell**  
Defense Commissary Agency

**FORT LEE, Va.** — Shopping in the commissary can save military families 30 percent or more. Now, customers can help commissaries in the United States hold the line on supply costs by asking customers to “just say no” to double bagging and say “paper please” when they get to the register. With more than 92 million customer transactions per year, grocery bags cost commissaries nearly \$20 million annually. The cost of plastic bags has risen more than 30 percent in the last two years due to the rise in oil prices, which directly affects the cost of manufacturing plastic bags. “Every extra dollar we spend on bags is a dollar we may not have for payroll or other commissary services,” said Patrick Nixon, acting director and chief executive officer. “Customers can help DeCA control costs by switching to paper bags and eliminating double bagging.” Baggers, who are not employees of DeCA, will be given fact sheets informing them of the costs of double bagging and plastic to encourage them to participate in the effort to hold the line on rising costs. Statistics show that commissaries currently use 80 percent plastic to 20 percent paper. DeCA officials want to see those percentages reversed.

See **COMMISSARY**, Page 2

COLUMBUS AFB TRAINING TIMELINE							
PHASE II				PHASE III			
Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Track Select	Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Graduation
37th (06-01)	-4.99 days	-3.51 days	April 22	48th (05-06)	2.77 days	2.69 days	March 11
41st (05-14)	7.71 days	2.56 days	March 9	50th (05-06)	-0.87 days	-2.31 days	March 11
Graduation speaker: Maj. Gen. Edward Ellis, 19th Air Force commander							

How soft drinks can affect dental health

The following information might help consumers make more informed decisions the next time they are standing in the supermarket deciding which soft drink to buy. First, an elementary lesson in what causes basic dental caries or cavities, as most people call them... Have you ever heard the old saying that sweets or sugar will rot your teeth? Well, that isn't exactly true. What actually causes cavities is acid in the mouth that first removes the calcium from the enamel. Once enough calcium has been removed from one spot, a void or cavity will form. Well, where does the acid come from? “Everyone has millions of microscopic organisms or bacteria in their mouths as well as all over their bodies,” said Lt. Col. Victoria Farley, dental services chief. “Basic flossing and brushing keeps the bacteria in the mouth at an acceptable level and mostly free of cavity formation.” The disease process of cavity formation occurs when excess bacteria remains on a tooth over time. The bacteria feeds on the sugar from foods eaten and deposits acid as a waste product. The acid slowly starts to cause calcium to be lost from your enamel. This process is called decalcification and can usually be noted as a white spot on the tooth or seen on an x-ray in the dental office. An example of the excess acid found in a person's mouth would be the foul morning breath that most of us wake up to. At night is when most of the saliva production in the mouth has slowed. The saliva dilutes most of the acid to slow the decalcification process. This is why it is most important to floss and brush before going to bed, to get rid of as much bacteria as possible. How will this help people decide which soft drink to buy? Research has shown that just about all carbonated soft drinks have added acid for a desired taste, not to mention a large amount of sugar for the excess bacteria to feast on. These acids can have the same destructive, decalcifying effects on the teeth that the acid producing bacteria cause. In one study, water was found to have virtually no decalcifying effect. So, water was used as a control for comparison to other soft drinks for the amount decalcification or calcium loss potential they have on enamel. The non-colas appeared to have the strongest acids and the most potential to decalcify teeth — 90 to 180 times greater as compared to water. The colas were calculated to have 55 to 65 times greater decalcifying potential than water, and coffee and brewed teas were calculated to have seven times as much potential for decalcification of enamel. Other useful data was also noted in the study. When soft drinks were compared to their diet counterparts, no differences in the amount of enamel decalcification were found, regardless of the sweetening agent. The study also showed that continuously sipping a drink during the day has a greater affect on enamel than quickly drinking an entire beverage because of the reduction in time and amount of contact with the teeth. And even though the colas, coffee and brewed teas have a lesser effect on decalcification of enamel, they have the greatest potential for staining teeth. Before buying that next case of soft drinks, make a stop by the dental aisle for floss, toothpaste and a good tooth brush. But remember, water would be great choice to sip on instead of a regular soda. (Courtesy of the 14th Medical Operations Squadron)

*February is National Children's Dental Health Month. For tips on proper oral hygiene, stop by the Columbus AFB Dental Clinic or visit the American Dental Association Web site at [www.ada.org](http://www.ada.org).*

14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED

As of press time, **27 BLAZE TEAM members** are deployed worldwide.

Remember to support the troops and their families while they are away.



**COMMISSARY**  
(Continued from Page 1)

“Several years ago the plastic was less expensive so we encouraged going with plastic bags,” Mr. Nixon said. “Now paper is the more economical choice.” Customers who want plastic or double bags will be accommodated, but “we hope customers are interested in helping their commissary hold down costs,” said Scott Simpson, DeCA chief operating officer. “We hope when they get to the register they'll say ‘no’ to double bagging and ‘yes, paper please’ to their bagger.” The awareness campaign to encourage customers to switch to paper bags is only taking place in U.S. commissaries because the cost of shipping the much bulkier paper bags to Europe and the Far East outweighs any savings obtained by switching to paper. The

campaign to reduce double bagging is worldwide. The Defense Commissary Agency operates a worldwide chain of nearly 275 commissaries providing groceries to military personnel, retirees and their families in a safe and secure shopping environment. Authorized patrons purchase items at cost plus a 5-percent surcharge, which covers the costs of building new commissaries and modernizing existing ones. Shoppers save an average of 30 percent or more on their purchases compared to commercial prices — savings worth more than \$2,700 annually for a family of four. A core military family support element, and a valued part of military pay and benefits, commissaries contribute to family readiness, enhance the quality of life for America's military and their families, and help recruit and retain the best and brightest men and women to serve their country.

SILVER WINGS

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Submission Deadline

The deadline for submitting copy for next week's SILVER WINGS is noon Monday. Articles may be dropped off at the public affairs office or e-mailed.

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# AF firefighters honor fallen comrade with final alarm

**SAN ANTONIO** — The Columbus AFB Fire Department, alongside Air Force firefighters worldwide, participated in a one-minute “final alarm” ceremony Feb. 16 honoring Staff Sgt. Ray Rangel who died while attempting to rescue two Soldiers after their Humvee overturned in a canal in Iraq.

“We were very proud to take part in the ceremony knowing that throughout the world, we were paying respect to one of our own through tradition and camaraderie in the fire protection career field,” said Master Sgt. Kerry Bakker, Columbus AFB deputy fire chief. “It’s always a sad occasion when a fellow firefighter dies, especially when he gave his life to save others.”

Officials estimate that more than 3,900 active-duty firefighters, countless civilian firefighters and thousands of other servicemembers at Air Force installations around the world participated in the ceremony.

The fire department bell rings to signal the start of a shift, the call for assistance, the successful completion of a day and in this case,

the passing of a hero. The final alarm, also referred to as “signal 5-5-5,” is a long-held tradition in America.

It started when red fire alarm boxes were found on city streets throughout the country. These made use of telegraph signals to call local dispatchers, who would in turn signal the appropriate fire station to respond to a fire. The alarm signified the return to quarters.

When a firefighter fell in the line of duty, the dispatcher would tap out the signal three times to notify all stations as a sign of honor and respect. For those who are honored in this way, the signal represents the end of his or her duties, and for comrades, the sounding of the alarm signals the firefighter’s “coming home.”

The last time the Columbus AFB Fire Department performed the final alarm ceremony was in 1995. Airman 1st Class Christopher Rezac and Richard Hogan of Sheppard AFB, Texas, lost their lives while fighting a fuel tank fire. *(Courtesy of the 14th CES and Air Force Print News Service)*



Elizabeth Davis Owens

**The Columbus AFB Fire Department honored fellow firefighter Staff Sgt. Ray Rangel during a one-minute “final alarm” ceremony Feb. 16. Sergeant Rangle died while attempting to rescue two Soldiers after their Humvee overturned in a canal in Iraq.**

# TSP ‘open season’ limitations end July 1

**Gerry Gilmore**  
American Forces Press Service

**WASHINGTON** — Defense Department civilians and servicemembers building tax-free retirement accounts through the Thrift Savings Plan soon will be able to change their investment options at any time instead of just twice a year.

Current biannual TSP “open season” investment-choice win-

dows will end July 1, said Army Lt. Col. Janet Fenton, executive director of the Armed Forces Tax Council. TSP participants, she said, will be able to switch their retirement account options at any time.

Colonel Fenton said “there’s not going to be the two open seasons during the year” where people can sign up for the retirement savings and investment program, change their contribution levels or change investment options.

Military people and civilians covered by the Civil Service Retirement System can contribute up to 10 percent of their paycheck to establish tax-free retirement accounts that grow from accumulated savings and investments in bonds, stocks and international funds. Employees covered by the Federal Employees Retirement System can contribute up to 15 percent in 2005. From 2006 on, no limit will apply to any participants in TSP.

Another TSP change also slated to start July 1 gives participants the choice of having a financial manager automatically adjust how funds are invested as market conditions change, officials said.

“They’ll move you from equities to bonds when you need to,” Colonel Fenton said, which should assist participants in maximizing their contributions.

Servicemembers have been eligible to establish tax-free TSP

retirement accounts since January 2002, she said.

Establishing a TSP account is a good idea even for those servicemembers who do not serve long enough to qualify for a pension, Colonel Fenton said. TSP funds accumulated during military service, she said, can be transferred to participating federal agency TSPs if a departing servicemember takes a government civilian job.

TSP savings can also be rolled into nongovernment civilian employers’ individual retirement accounts, the colonel said.

# Legal office explains taxable vs. non-taxable income

According to the Internal Revenue Service, most income received is taxable. But there are some areas in which certain types of income are partially taxed or not taxed at all.

Some common examples of items not included in a person’s income are:

- \* Reimbursement for qualifying adoption expenses
- \* Child support payments
- \* Gifts, bequests and inheritances

- \* Workers’ compensation benefits
- \* Meals and lodging for the convenience of your employer
- \* Compensatory damages awarded for physical injury or physical sickness
- \* Welfare benefits

Any proceeds that exceed the cost of a life insurance policy surrendered for cash must be included in a person’s income. Life insurance proceeds paid because of the death of an insured person are not

taxable unless the policy was surrendered for a price.

Another example of income that may or may not be excluded is a scholarship or fellowship grant. If you are a candidate for a degree, you can exclude amounts you receive as a qualified scholarship or fellowship. Amounts used for room and board do not qualify.

These examples are not all-inclusive. For more information, visit the tax center

located at 7211A Atlanta Drive in Capitol Housing or call Ext. 7613. *(Courtesy of the 14th Flying Training Wing Legal Office)*

**(Editor’s note: The Columbus AFB Tax Center has already obtained more than \$1.25 million in refunds for its clients and filed more than 1,230 tax returns. Legal office tax center appointments are available from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Thursdays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays.)**

# Proud commander 14th CONS wins 6 of 7 HQ AETC Awards

**Maj Keith Kenne**  
14th Contracting Squadron

There are times during a commander’s tour when even the word “pride” does not quite capture the moment. Headquarters Air Education and Training Command recently announced that the 14th Contracting Squadron won six of the seven headquarters-level individual awards, with an honorable mention (second place) for the seventh award! That’s nearly a MAJCOM “clean sweep” — from field grade officer, to civilian, to airman award categories, which only adds to the BLAZE TEAM’s ever-growing list of award winners.

Among the 12 AETC contracting squadrons, the 14th CONS is considered to be one of the smaller units in terms of manning, with less than 40 people. Although small in size, our squadron packs a powerful “mission impact” punch. I’ve long known this squadron’s simple formula for success, but am continuously baffled to see the equation ring true: Caring people + Teamwork = Success!



To avoid bias, the HQ AETC Logistics Directorate formed award boards from members of other headquarters functional directorates. Here are some of the highlights that edged out our many competitors:

Mr. Neil Cole, Director of Business Operations, landed the Outstanding Contracting Civilian Award (GS-12 and above) through demonstrated maximization of our small business program.

In fact, his program was recognized earlier this year with the “Champion of Veterans Enterprise” award for exceeding the contracting goal for service disabled veteran-owned businesses. The 14th CONS was one of only six contracting organizations within the entire federal government to achieve that level of performance.

First Lt. Brian Hurley won the company grade officer category through his flawless emergency award of the base’s \$6.5 million fuels operations contract, as well as his significant involvement with the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps program.

Ms. Ramona Ferguson garnered the Outstanding Contracting Civilian Award (GS-11 and below) with her leadership on the base’s newest \$25 million SABER construction support contract, allowing the BLAZE TEAM to garnish millions more dollars in construction funding from HQ AETC at the end of fiscal year 2004.

Master Sgt. John Schopper scored the SNCO category by keeping bombs on target during Operation Iraqi Freedom through critical contracting support of F-15/16 warfighting sorties, not to mention saving more than \$500,000 on a bottled water contract negotiation.

Similarly, Staff Sgt. Jonathan Brinson snagged the NCO category with standout efforts during OIF by managing \$2.7 million in crucial infrastructure contracts for warfighting operations.

Airman 1st Class Jason Clark received an honorable mention in his category through phenomenal actions on the highly successful “Columbus Vendor Fair,” as well as supporting domestic contingency contracting operations during Hurricane Ivan recovery efforts.

Now it’s off to the Air Force level competition... Good luck, 14th CONS. Let’s show ‘em the BLAZE spirit shines brightest at the top!

# Bookmark this — Multicultural history gives reason for reflection

**Maj Kenneth Crane**  
14th Communications Squadron



As we celebrate our recent round of warriors returning from deployments across the globe, we’re enthralled by stories about the Iraqi elections.

Maj. Nina Perino captured my sentiment when she reflected on her deployed experience this week at a wing ceremony: “The elections were the culmination of everything we worked for over there. It made everything seem that much more worthwhile.”

We readily identify with her because, just as we thrill to watch good guys overcome great odds to beat bad guys on TV, we are part of the heart-thumping, real-life drama in Iraq and Afghanistan where we equip people to overcome rule by terror and raise their voices in courageous elections. We root for a grandmother whose weather-beaten face makes history by braving the threat of insurgent retaliation, raising her ink-stained finger in brave defiance.

Then I reflect: How soon will these memories fade into the dusty articles of yesterday as years pile on and new challenges rise? Will the Iraqi liberation

story endure as a significant bookmark of history to give our children a leg up on the challenges of tomorrow? Only if we remember. Only if we pass it on.

African-American History Month is an opportunity to revive our nation’s memories and highlight bookmarks that shaped our values to bring us where we are today. In fact, in our very own streets of Columbus 130 years ago, we find a significant bookmark bearing a striking similarity to the election bravery in Iraq today.

The bitter Civil War was only recently concluded when escaped slave Robert Gleed began to prosper in the bustling community of Columbus under the protective eye of the occupying Union army. He accumulated hundreds of acres of land, a house and a general store.

Like his brave, modern counterparts in Iraq, he had the guts to run for election several times and even won a seat in the state legislature, despite fierce opponents who despised his claim to liberty. His 1875 run for Lowndes County Sheriff, however, cast an ominous shadow on the progress of “liberty for all” in Columbus.

On Nov. 1, the eve of the election, a group of his advocates staged a bold

town parade in his support. Similar to the terror bombings and pillaging in Iraq today, a mob attacked and killed four of Gleed’s supporters and ransacked his house. Gleed escaped with little more than the clothes on his back. His property was confiscated or auctioned off and he was written off by some as no one worth remembering. But they were wrong.

We do remember Robert Gleed and others like him, just as we will remember the brave souls in Afghanistan and Iraq who dared to vote or even lead in the face of terror.

Let us hold history’s torch high to illuminate inspiring stories from our past and cheer on groups like the Columbus AFB Multicultural Committee and the Columbus Historical Society. The committee has sponsored special events and newspaper articles like this one, and the society has sponsored guided tours of notable bookmarks in Columbus’ past, such as the gutsy voters’ march in 1875.

If you would like to become involved in such efforts, contact Master Sgt. Curtis Chiles at Ext. 7065 or e-mail [curtis.chiles@columbus.af.mil](mailto:curtis.chiles@columbus.af.mil).

**(Editor’s note: Major Crane gives special thanks to Chuck Yarborough of the Mississippi School for Math and Science for his account of Robert Gleed and to Todd Lerwan and Allen Bree of the Associated Press.)**

In your opinion, who in African-American History has made the most significant contribution to our country?



**Senior Airman Ronnie Titus**  
14th Security Forces Squadron

*“To be honest, I don’t feel that there was one significant person who contributed the most to African-American history because there are so many people of all races who have passed the torch of freedom and equality throughout the years.”*





# Chasing a Dragon Lady

**Master Sgt. Michael Ward**  
380th Air Expeditionary Wing

**SOUTHWEST ASIA** — The great thing about a sports car is that it goes really fast.

The bad thing about a sports car is that it goes really fast and someday you are bound to get a ticket, unless you are wide open on the flightline at a forward-deployed location here as a chase vehicle for the U-2 Dragon Lady.

The U-2 is a very unusual aircraft. It is tough to land, and it is tough to see out of, and the pilot is pretty much cocooned in an astronaut-like pressure suit.

To assist the pilot during takeoffs and landings, the U-2 community uses Chevrolet Camaro Z-28s to run with the aircraft so the driver can help the pilot “see.”

“Your main job as the mobile in the Z-28 is to let the (pilot) know how high he is off the ground,” said Maj. Shane Johnson, deputy operations commander for the 99th Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron. “The U-2 is a

pretty fragile aircraft, and if you land hard, you can break it.”

The driver of the Z-28 is a fellow U-2 pilot, and the two work as a team. While the pilot is prepping for the flight, the Z-28 driver preflights the aircraft and gets the chase vehicle in position.

Once the pilot starts the takeoff roll, the Z-28 follows at speeds that climb to nearly 100 mph.

“At first, it’s a little unnerving because you’re not used to going that fast and because you’re not used to chasing an airplane down a runway,” the major said. “You kind of have to get used to it. But after awhile you do, and it’s just another day at work.”

Takeoffs are the easy part, Major Johnson said. During landings, the drivers not only need speed, but the skill to slot in directly behind the fast moving jet without getting in the way.

“You don’t want to hit the airplane, and you don’t want to flip the car,” he said. “As you make those fast run-ins you have to get your aim point. It’s kind of like doing a rejoin in formation.

“You just come zooming in from behind and follow along about 60 feet from the aircraft. When you’re good at it, you can just pull it right in behind the plane,” Major Johnson said.

It takes a powerful car to chase down a jet aircraft, and the Z-28 has a 305-horsepower, 5.7-liter engine similar to the one used in the Chevrolet Corvette.

The car will actually beat the jet from 0-to-60 mph, but past that, the jet always wins, he said.

Fast cars have been part of the U-2 program since the 1960s. The program began with Chevrolet El Caminos and later used Ford Mustangs before switching to the Z-28.

But with the Z-28 now out of production, new Pontiac GTOs are on the flightline at the U-2’s home base at Beale AFB, Calif.

“Driving the (Z-28) is fun, but that’s not why we’re out there,” the major said. “We’re out there to be the safety observer and make sure the pilot can safely put the aircraft on the ground.

“When you come back from an eight-hour mission, and you’ve got to land the

most difficult aircraft there is to land, you want somebody to back you up. With the car, you are the wingman backing up the pilot.”



Photos by Staff Sgt. Justin Jacobs  
**Maj. Shane Johnson stands in front of one of the Chevrolet Camaro Z-28s used to chase a U-2 Dragon Lady.**

**Elisa Quintero**  
14th Services Division

The Columbus AFB youth center is joining a nationwide search to identify talented young artists. The competition is part of the Boys and Girls Clubs of America’s (BGCA) ImageMakers National Photography Contest.

Sponsored by the Circuit City Foundation, the contest is part of a comprehensive initiative encouraging artistic skills, cultural enrichment and creativity in the photography medium.

As a participant in the ImageMakers National Photography Contest, the Columbus AFB youth center may submit members’ photography in four age divisions

## Services offers wide variety of programs to base people

**Stampin’ Up workshop:** This workshop is from 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday at the community center. Cost is \$5 plus materials or participants can bring their own supplies. For more information or to register, call 434-5076.

**New and improved lunch buffets:** The Columbus Club begins its new lunch buffet program Tuesday. The buffets are offered from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday through Friday. Cost is \$6.95 for members and \$8.95 for nonmembers. More than a dozen items are offered on each buffet line.

Tuesdays is Mexican with beef fajitas, a taco bar, enchiladas, quesadillas and more; Wednesday’s country buffet features southern fried chicken, barbecue pork ribs, smoked brisket and more; Thursday is Italian with sweet Italian sausage, baked cannelloni, lasagna, spaghetti with meat sauce, chicken parmesan with marinara sauce, cheese tortellini, Italian meatballs and more; and Friday is a Tri-Continental buffet offering choices from three continents — Germany, Asia and New England. Call Ext. 2490.

**New prices for massage therapy:** The fitness center has reduced its prices for massage therapy. Cost is \$45 for a one-hour full body massage, \$25 for a 30-minute half body massage, \$20 for a 15-minute table massage or \$15 for a 15-minute chair massage. Massage therapy is available from 9:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays by appointment only. For more information or an appointment, call Ext. 2772 or 574-0982.

**Women’s history month:** Every Thursday throughout March, base personnel are invited to participate in the library’s

weekly “Do You Know?” trivia question program. Participants can submit one answer a week. All correct answers will be counted and the person with the most correct answers for the month will receive a \$20 Books-A-Million gift card. For more information, stop by the library or call Ext. 2934.

**Craft classes:** The skills development center offers both youth and adult craft classes. Adult classes are at 10:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays. Youth classes are at 11:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Wednesdays. Stop by the skills development center to see a display of the upcoming classes available. Call Ext. 7836.

**Professional basketball games:** The information, ticket and travel office has tickets available for the Los Angeles Lakers versus Memphis Grizzlies game April 3 and the Miami Heat versus Memphis Grizzlies game April 8. Cost is \$60 for tickets only. Transportation is available to and from the April 3 game. Cost is \$99 for club members and \$114 for nonmembers for both a ticket and transportation. An overnight trip is available for the April 8 game. Cost is \$125 for club members and \$140 for nonmembers, which includes transportation, one night’s lodging at the Sleep Inn near Beale Street and a ticket to the game. Call Ext. 7861.

**Birmingham shopping trip:** The information, ticket and travel office offers this trip March 5 to the Riverchase Galleria and the Water Mark Outlet Malls in Birmingham, Ala. The bus will leave at 9 a.m. from Outdoor Recreation and return around 6 p.m. Cost is \$15 for club members and \$18 for non-members. Call Ext. 7861.

**Spring Fling egg hunt:** The youth center will host this annual event from 9 a.m. to noon at Freedom Park March 19. The day’s events will feature carnival games and egg hunts for four different age groups. Volunteers are needed to help with the event. Call Ext. 2504.

**Bowling birthday party package:** The bowling center offers birthday party packages for Saturdays and Sundays. Packages include a reserved seating area, a pitcher of soda for every four children, one 8-inch pizza for every two children, plates, utensils, napkins and one full hour of bowling with six children per lane and free shoe rental. Cost is \$10 per child. For reservations, call Ext. 2426.

# CAFB joins search for top young photographers

(ages 9 and younger, ages 10 to 12, ages 13 to 15 and ages 16 to 18) and five categories, including color process, black and white process, alternative process, digital and photo essay. Selected photographs will compete at the regional level and regional winners will be judged nationally.

Forty-four national winners will be named, and their photography will be displayed in the ImageMakers National Photography Contest traveling exhibition and at special BGCA events throughout the year. Winning photographers will receive an award and letter of congratulations from BGCA President Roxanne Spillet. Regional finalists will receive a certificate of participation.

“By introducing members to photography, we are giv-

ing them the priceless opportunity to express themselves in creative and unusual ways,” said Rose Lime, youth programs director. “Circuit City Foundation’s support will enable members to maximize their artistic talents and develop creative thinking to last a lifetime.”

Columbus AFB entries must be submitted to the youth center by April 1, 2005. The photographs will be displayed, to include judging, at the base library for one week.

The Columbus AFB youth center provides programs for more than 500 boys and girls in the areas of character and leadership development, educational enhancement, career preparation, health and life skills, the arts, and sports, fitness and recreation. For more information about the programs provided, call Ext. 2504.

## Mirror image



Athena Brimer  
**Local artist Toni Jones poses with an oil rendition of one of her models, Mary Fuseyamore, Mayor of Pickensville, Ala. Ms. Jones has a collection of art on display at the base library in celebration of African American History Month.**



Base Notes

**COSC social**  
The Wing Spouses host a wine tasting Columbus Officers’ Spouses’ Club social at 6:30 p.m. March 8 at the Columbus Club. The menu is hors d’oeuvres. Cost is \$13.25 for per person, and club members receive a \$2 discount. Members are invited to bring their spouses. Call 434-8915 by noon Thursday.

**Tuition assistance**  
Effective Tuesday, the education center will implement FAST Tuition Assistance. FAST Tuition Assistance is open to active-duty military personnel and will save time by allowing members to apply for tuition assistance before visiting the education center.

People must log on to https://afvec.langley.af.mil/afvec/pages/center.aspx?ID=2700, select FAST Tuition Assitance, read the instructions and if they meet the requirements listed, they can fill out the information request form and e-mail or fax it to the education center.  
The tuition assistance form will be ready for pick-up in three duty days. For more information, call Ext. 2565.

**Airport gate passes**  
The Transportation Security Administration has issued a security directive pertaining to military passengers. Family members may be given a pass to escort a military passenger to him or her departure gate or to meet a military passenger at his or her arrival gate.

Family members can obtain passes from the airline the military member is flying with. A pass and photo identifica-

tion are needed to get past the security checkpoint.

Military members and their relatives can also find a resting place at the airport USO facility.

Family Support Center

**(Editor’s note:** *All activities are offered at the family support center unless otherwise specified. For more information about any of the activities listed, call Ext. 2790.)*

**Spouse welcome**  
A welcome reception for spouses new to Columbus AFB is from 10 to 11 a.m. every Wednesday at the Magnolia Inn Lobby. Spouses will receive gifts and information about the family support center.

**Employment letters**  
A workshop explaining examples and the purpose of employment letters is from 9 to 10 a.m. Wednesday.

**AFAS computer class**  
The Air Force Aid Society sponsors an eight-week computer class for spouses of active-duty Air Force members. Spouses must meet admission requirements and register through East Mississippi Community College at the education center by Monday.

Vouchers for class tuition and books are available at the family support center. For more information, call Ext. 2839 or Ext. 2855.

**Financial management**  
A workshop about personal financial management planning begins at 11 a.m. Thursday.

**Health benefits**  
A seminar with information about health benefits available to personnel who are separating or retiring from the military is from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. March 8.

**TAP workshop**  
A transition assistance workshop for personnel who are within one year of retirement or separation from the military is from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. March 8 through March 10. To sign up, call Ext. 2839.

Chapel Schedule

**Catholic**  
Sunday:  
9:15 a.m. — Mass  
10:30 a.m. — CCD at Bldg. 1052\*  
5 p.m. — Confessions  
5:30 p.m. — SUPT Mass

**Protestant**  
Sunday:  
9 a.m. — Sunday school at Bldg. 1052\*  
10:30 a.m. — Contemporary worship service at the community center  
10:45 a.m. — Traditional worship  
Tuesday:  
11:30 a.m. — Lunch and Bible study  
Wednesday:  
6 p.m. — Bible study, Pioneer Clubs, teen ministries at Bldg. 1052\*

For information about Islamic, Jewish, Orthodox or other services, call the base chapel at Ext. 2500.  
\*The chapel annex is currently being renovated. All religious education activities are temporarily located at Building 1052, the former 14th Communications Squadron radio maintenance building.

Movies

**Today**  
“Coach Carter”  
(PG-13, violence, sexual content, language, teen partying and some drug material, 137 min.)  
Starring: Samuel L. Jackson and Robert Richard.

**Saturday**  
“In Good Company”  
(PG-13, some sexual content and drug references, 110 min.)  
Starring: Dennis Quaid and Topher Grace

All movies are shown at 7 p.m. at the base theater, unless otherwise noted. For more information, visit www.cafb.grapevine.com.

**Hunt happenings:** An academic breakfast is at 8 a.m. and a Black History Program is at 1 p.m. today at Hunt Intermediate School. Parents of all students are invited to participate. For more information, call Sharon Little at 241-7160.

**A Night with Bill (Shakespeare):** The Columbus Community Theatre presents A Hot Night with Bill (Shakespeare) at 7 p.m. today and at 2 p.m. Sunday at Lee Middle School. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$6 for children under 12.

**Pilgrimage Pageant Ball:** The Junior Auxillary of Columbus will sell tickets for this event from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday at the Junior Auxillary Hut at 1000 Park Circle for the annual charity benefiting Lowndes County children. The 55th Pilgrimage Pageant and Ball will be April 9 at the Trotter Convention Center, with doors opening at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$35 per person. Balcony tickets are \$15 per person. Tickets for the Royalty Breakfast, 8:30 p.m. to mid-

night, which concludes festivities, will be \$15. For more information, contact Frances Glenn at 325-2970.

**Tutoring/mentoring program:** The Nu Epsilon Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., invites the public to the opening of its Ivy AKAdemy signature tutorial/mentoring program at 6 p.m. Tuesday at Hunt Intermediate School. Dr. Clara Young, published author and assistant professor of education at Auburn, will present “Who’s the Parent?” — a practical guide to parenting. Dr. Young will be available for book signings following the program. For more information, call the school at (662) 241-7160.


**The McLean Mix:** The McLean Mic will perform “MILLing in the ENNIUM” at 7:30 p.m. March 16 at Poindexter Hall at the Mississippi University for Women campus. The McLeans are a husband and wife duo who collaborate in the creation and performance of electronic music, soundscapes and multi-media concerts. Admission is

free and open to the public. For more information, call 329-7124.

**Stitches From the Heart:** Stitches From the Heart is looking for volunteers to knit, crochet or quilt blankets, sweaters and hats for babies in need. For more information or to sign up, contact Kathy Silverton at (866) 472-6903 or e-mail stitchfromheart@aol.com.

**Community chorus:** Rehearsals for the Starkville-Columbus Community Chorus spring concert are held at 7:30 p.m. Mondays in the Choral Building on the Mississippi State University campus. The spring concert is scheduled for 5 p.m. March 6 at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Starkville, Miss. The repertoire for the concert will be announced at Monday’s rehearsal. For more information about the community chorus, call Dr. Linda Karen Smith at (662) 325-2870.

**For more event listings, visit www.columbus-ms.org.**



# Tuskegee Airman Ball

Mississippi, begins at 6 p.m. March 4 at the Trotter Convention Center is downtown Columbus. The event is sponsored by the local chapter of the Tuskegee Airman, Inc. Tickets are \$25 per person. The social begins at 6 p.m. and dinner will be served at 7 p.m. Dress code is semi-formal or coat and tie for civilians, and mess dress or semi-formal uniforms for military members. For more information or to purchase tickets, call Michelle Jones at Ext. 2380, Temple's BP Station at 327-1939 or Garfield's Restaurant at 241-0005.

BARGAIN LINE

Bargain Line advertisement

The Bargain Line is free for all military members (including guard and reserve members), DOD civilians, military retirees, family members and contract employees.  
Bargain Line advertisements must be turned in to the Silver Wings office in the 14th Flying Training Wing headquarters building by noon Monday to be included in the following week's issue. Late ads will be held over for the next issue.  
Reruns must be phoned in to the Silver Wings office, 434-7068, by noon Monday for inclusion in the next week's issue. Please do not re-submit ads for rerun on this form. Advertisements should contain a home phone number, home address or both. Duty phone numbers will not appear in the ads.  
Advertisements for private businesses or services providing a continuous source of income, such as baby-sitting or rental property, may not appear in the Bargain Line. They may, however, be purchased through the Silver Wings publisher, 328-2424. Please fill out this form completely. The Silver Wings staff reserves the right to edit ads as necessary.

Type of advertisement (circle one)	Home	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Yard sales	Pets
Print advertisement	_____				
	_____				
	_____				
	_____				
	_____				
Name	_____				
Home Telephone #	_____		Duty Telephone #	_____	
	(in case we need more information)				

**Please let us know what you think of the Silver Wings:**  
Are you happy with the Silver Wings? Yes ☐ No ☐  
What would you like to see more of in the newspaper? News ☐ Sports ☐ Photos ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_  
If you would like to give any other suggestions, please e-mail us at silverwings@columbus.af.mil.



### Shorts

#### Summer baseball/softball

Sign-ups for the Caledonia Sports Association summer baseball and softball leagues are from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday at Ola J. Pickett Park press box in Caledonia, Miss. Participants do not have to reside in Caledonia or attend city schools to participate.

The divisions are as follows: tee-ball for ages 4 to 6; coach pitch for ages 7 to 8; baseball for ages 9 to 10; baseball for ages 11 to 12; girls softball for ages 9 to 10; and girls softball for ages 11 to 12. Registration fee is \$40, and a birth certificate copy is needed. For more information, call 251-0117.

#### Air Force volleyball

All ranks of active duty, guard and reserve men and women are invited to apply for the 2005 All Air Force Volleyball Training Camp. The camp is scheduled for April 22 through May 16 in Hawaii and Colorado, including travel days. All interested servicemembers must submit an Air Force Form 303 to the fitness and sports center by March 1.

Selections will begin around March 10. The Air Force Sports office will send a message to the major commands approximately three weeks before the camp begins. Call Ext. 2772.

#### Umpires wanted

The Caledonia Sports Association seeks people interested in umpiring youth summer softball and baseball. Training is conducted Thursday evenings and some Saturdays. Call 364-0414 or 251-0117.

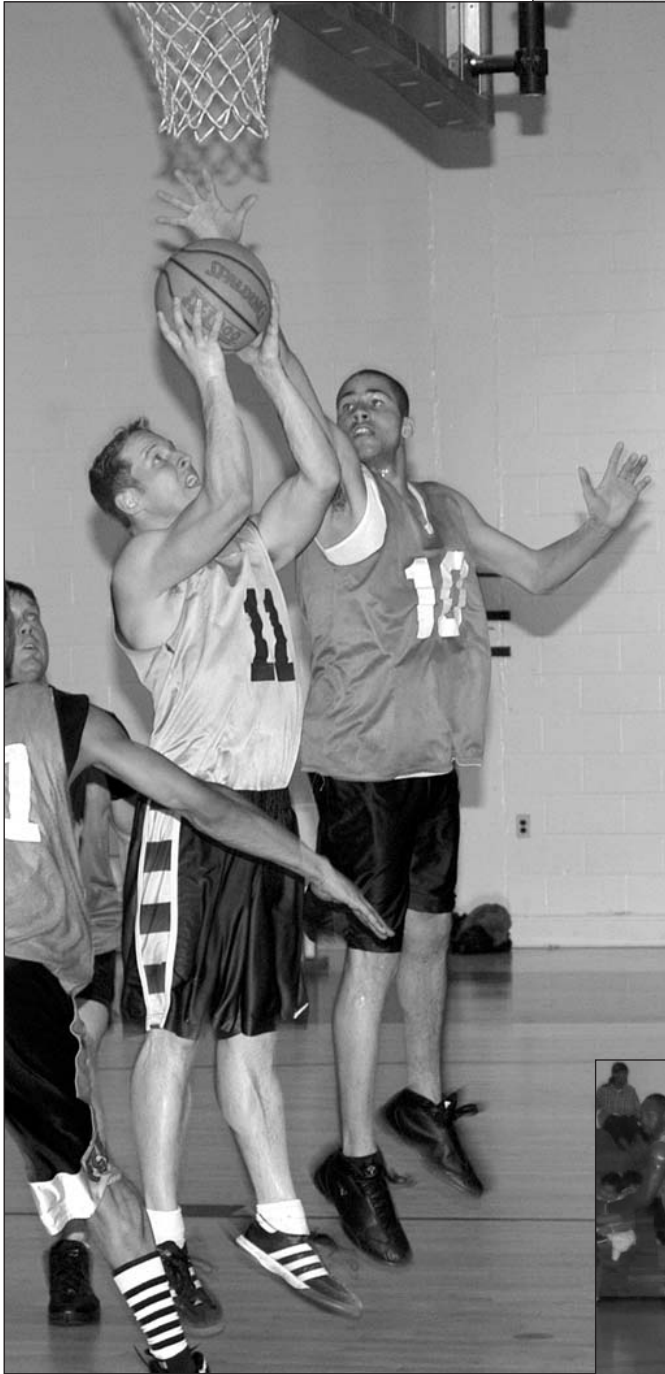
#### Aerobics classes

A variety of aerobics classes are available at the fitness center. On Mondays, spin classes are at 11 a.m. and 5 p.m.; on Tuesdays, a cardio combo class is at 9 a.m., strength and tone is at noon, Pilates is at 5 p.m. and cardio kick boxing is at 6 p.m.; on Wednesdays, spin classes are at 11 a.m. and 5 p.m., step classes are at noon and a fit circuit class is at 6 p.m.; on Thursdays, cardio combo is at 9 a.m., strength and tone is at noon, Pilates is at 5 p.m. and cardio kick-boxing is at 6 p.m.; and an 11 a.m. fit circuit class is available Fridays. Call the fitness center at Ext. 2772.

#### Alternate shot golf tourney

This tournament begins at 10 a.m. March 12 at the Whispering Pines Golf Course. Entry is \$15 plus green fees. A computer will select the teams. For more information or to register, call Ext. 7932.

# 50th FTS defeats 14th OSS, 38-28



Photos by Airman 1st Class Cecilia Rodriguez  
**Adam Bethea, 50th Flying Training Squadron, goes up for two.**

Intramural Basketball Standings	Team	Wins	Losses
	153rd ANG	9	0
	14th MDG	8	3
	48th FTS	7	2
	14th CES	6	5
	50th FTS	5	4
	14th OSS	3	9
	14th MSS	3	6
	41st/37th FTS	2	6
	14th SFS	1	9
*Standings current as of Wednesday			



**Top: Carl Densford, 14th Operations Support Squadron, goes in for the rebound while James Chase, 50th Flying Training Squadron, attempts a block.**  
**Right: Antwaun Abrams, 14th OSS, drives to the basket.**